IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Nicholas Charles PARSON et al.

Serial No.: 10/066,442 Group Art Unit 1742

Filed: February 1, 2002 Examiner: S. Ip

For : ALUMINIUM ALLOY AND EXTRUSION

REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

1185 Avenue of the Americas New York, N.Y. 10036 December 5, 2006

Hon. Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

S I R:

DEC 1 1 2006

In response to the Office Action dated June 5, 2006, applicants respectfully request reconsideration and further examination of the above-identified application for the reasons set forth below.

Attention is respectfully directed to the Declaration of Thiagarajan Ramanan under 37 C.F.R. §1.132, a Facsimile copy of which is attached hereto, with accompanying Exhibits 1-3.

Claims 9 - 24 are in the application. Of these, claims 9, 10, 13 and 14 are independent. All the claims have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. \$103(a) as unpatentable over JP 61030684 (JP '684) in view of U.S. patent No. 3,879,194 (Morris et al.), and also as unpatentable over GB 1484595 (GB '595).

Prima Facie Obviousness

Claim 9 is directed to "a method of producing a population of aluminum alloy billets comprising performing more than one cast of metal wherein each cast of metal converts a body of molten metal comprising virgin metal and recycled scrap into a plurality of billets, and wherein said body has a composition within a specification such that every billet of the population has a composition (in wt %) consisting essentially of . . . Cu < 0.015"